

■ Strengthening economic resilience...

CDB, Belize boost ties

■ BELMOPAN

A MISSION from the Barbados-based Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) has ended a four-day mission to Belize conducting a comprehensive Country Project Portfolio Review.

'This four-day mission assessed the progress of ongoing CDB-funded projects, identified opportunities to accelerate implementation and ensured alignment with national priorities to deliver tangible benefits to Belizean communities. This mission reaffirmed the bank's commitment to more responsive and country-aligned development support,' the CDB said in a statement.

It said that the review facilitated crucial discussions between government officials and key project stakeholders, focusing on critical areas such as climate-resilient infrastructure, private sector growth, and social development.

'This was an opportunity to ensure that CDB-supported initiatives are delivering meaningful, sustainable results. By working closely with key stakeholders, we can strengthen economic resilience, improve social services, and advance climate adaptation efforts for the benefit of all Belizeans. This visit reinforced the Bank's commitment to supporting Belize's development priorities,' said CDB's acting director of projects, L O'Reilly Lewis.

The CDB said that the mission held high-level strategic discussions focused on infrastructure development, project implementation challenges, and lessons from key projects in the portfolio. It said these include projects in road transportation, education, water and sanitation, energy, and agriculture.

'Together, these investments are transforming connectivity, boosting trade and productivity, enhancing access to essential services, and laying the foundation for long-term economic growth and social resilience. This broad engagement reflects CDB's commitment to supporting Belize in achieving inclusive, climate-resilient, and sustainable development outcomes', it said.

The CDB said that the mission also conducted site visits to key project locations, providing an on-the-ground assessment of implementation progress.

'Belize welcomes the CDB's country portfolio

review mission. This collaborative process is essential for ensuring that our development initiatives are effective and aligned with Belize's national priorities,' said Carlos Pol, chief executive officer at the Belize Ministry of Economic Transformation 'We value the CDB's partnership in strengthening our economic resilience, enhancing social services, and advancing climate adaptation. This review provides a critical opportunity to fine-tune our strategies and maximise the impact of these vital projects for the benefit of the Belizean people.'

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